

REMARKS

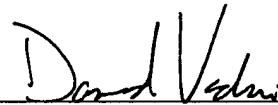
Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully solicited.

Claims 1 to 8, 10 to 17, 19 and 20 are now pending in the application, with Claims 1 and 10 being independent. Claims 1 to 8, and 10 to 17 were allowed. Claims 3 to 5, 8, 12 to 14, and 17 have been amended, and Claims 19 and 20 have been newly-added.

Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowability is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants
Damond E. Vadnais
Registration No. 52,310

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3800
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200
DEV/vc

DC_MAIN 171281v1